President’s Letter

By Tess Tobin

Serving REFORMA has been the highlight of my career. As many of you know, I came to librarianship as a second career after teaching English to Speakers of Other Language for more than 25 years. I started my job at New York City College of Technology, the City University of New York in June 2000. The following September, a colleague invited me to a REFORMA Northeast Chapter Meeting at the Brooklyn Public Library. Isabel Espinal was presiding as President and others sitting around the table included Roxana Benavidez, Haydee Hodis, Toni Bissessar, Judy Rivas, Mario Gonzalez, Janice Greenberg, Linda Goodman, Miguel Garcia Colon and a few other strong REFORMISTAS. Martin Gómez, then Executive Director at Brooklyn Public Library, greeted us and talked highly of REFORMA and its history. Needless to say, I was totally captivated. Thus, my days with REFORMA began.

I must say that I learned from the best and the rest is history.
My year as President has taken me in many different directions. Having worked hard during my Vice-Presidency preparing an outstanding REFORMA National Conference and then having it canceled due to Hurricane Irma in Puerto Rico was an emotional setback. However, getting the opportunity to visit Puerto Rico in January 2018 and meet with the most compassionate, resilient, dedicated, caring and brave librarians was very motivating. They had experienced a terrible trauma during Hurricane Maria, and yet they were on the front lines trying to help students and patrons in makeshift rooms while seeking scarce funds to reopen their libraries.

Another grand moment was announcing the Pura Belpré Awards during the Youth Media Awards at ALA Mid-Winter. The excitement in the auditorium and representing REFORMA honoring Latino authors was, by far, just outstanding. Thank you to the 2017-2018 Pura Belpré Committee for your dedication and for picking the 2018 medal winners for narration Lucky Broken Girl, by Ruth Behar and for illustration La Princesa and the Pea, illustrated by Juana Martinez-Neal and written by Susan Middleton Elya.

One of my final activities was being invited to the Mexican Library Association (AMBAC) Annual Meeting in Ixtapa, Mexico. I gave a presentation about REFORMA and the work that we do. Many REFORMA Chapters sent me photos and I shared them with attendees. Then, the incoming President of AMBAC, Professor Marisela Castro and I renewed the agreement between AMBAC and REFORMA. Originally signed by Loida García-Febo during her REFORMA Presidency in 2010, the agreement promotes the exchange of professional information, the presentation of joint programs and workshops and the promotion of sister library programs.

I am grateful to my Executive Committee – Madeline, Kenny, Gloria, Nicanor, David, Elizabeth and Patty. You were a strong team. You all took ownership during our financial debacle and you were the support I needed to help lead REFORMA and prepare the way for the future.

REFORMA has a rich history. In 2021 we will be celebrating our 50th Anniversary. For five decades REFORMA members have been advocating for Latinos and many others in our communities. I see this as the opportunity to launch a campaign and tell our story. There is so much to tell.

Our story is so we can feel proud. It is also essential to share our story and to let new professionals hear and learn about our history. We welcome new members and especially all new professionals to join REFORMA. You are our future.

Thank you REFORMA. Thank you for your friendship, and for your love. May the coming years be as fruitful.
Puerto Rico

by Elizabeth Borges Ocasio

The REFORMA Puerto Rico Chapter is currently recognized as one of the most active librarian organizations on the island. During the aftermath of Hurricane Maria, we coordinated a meeting with all the local librarian and archivist associations in an effort to unite our efforts and aid the libraries, archives, and any information-based centers that were affected by the hurricanes. With our combined efforts we were able to create an inventory highlighting every library affected by the hurricane and how they were affected. This inventory was crucial to several aid organizations such as FEMA, ALA, and many others because it provided them with the necessary information to manage their aid. Currently we are the only librarian organization that holds a seat on the Cultural Resources Advisory Council formed by FEMA, which aims to help preserve and rescue the cultural heritage of Puerto Rico in the aftermath of Hurricane Maria.

We also coordinated the visit of important community members such as current president of REFORMA Tess Tobin and ALA President-Elect Loida Garcia-Febo to the island. They visited academic, public, and school libraries that were affected by the hurricane and met with local librarians, leaders of associations, and directors of libraries.

On International Childhood Cancer Day, in February, we organized a fundraiser where people, companies, and bookstores donated books, educational items, and basic goods that were then donated to the CAF Foundation, which offer services such as classes, individual tutoring, language therapies, and support groups to children and young teens who suffer from cancer or chronic illness. We also did an activity named “The Storytelling Hour” where children and young teens who were patients were entertained using dramatized stories. We also provided a workshop for the parents of the Newborn Intensive Care Unit on how to read to their babies.

The Chapter also coordinated two proposal writing workshops offered by Dr. Sandra Toro, an Institute of Museum and Library Services Senior Program Officer. Library and museum professionals attended those workshops.
Finally, during National Library Week we also organized two activities in defense of the librarian profession, libraries, and public education. The first was a forum titled “The Devaluation of the Information Professional in Puerto Rico.” The second was the first manifestation of its kind in the history of Puerto Rican librarianship, titled “Libraries Lead and Silence is Not The Answer.”

Now we are planning our annual meeting, collaborating and making alliances with other private, public, and professional organizations to promote libraries and the role of our island’s librarians.

Colorado
by Nicanor Diaz

On May 19th, the REFORMA Colorado chapter hosted its 6th annual conference in Denver, Colorado. This conference serves primarily two purposes: a fundraiser for REFORMA Colorado, and a chance to give our professional and paraprofessional library staff an affordable opportunity to grow professionally and learn how to better serve their Spanish-speaking communities. Over 120 people attended the conference.

The revenue generated from the conference allows REFORMA Colorado to provide mini-grants for our REFORMA Colorado members to assist with professional development or programming at their library.

A highlight of the conference was honoring our keynote speaker Duncan Tonatiuh, who spoke about how he was discovered as an artist and how difficult it is to get into publishing. He also talked about his creative process and some of the struggles he has had in the publishing world, particularly publishing books in Spanish.

The conference also hosted many professionals and paraprofessionals who developed some informative presentations to help promote the mission of REFORMA National, including an amazing presentation by Camila Alire titled “Leading Where You Stand” that taught participants how to help provide services to the Latino/Hispanic community regardless of their positions.
REFORMA Phoenix is active again thanks to the hard work of Amy Vaterlaus, Deborah Moreno, and Andrea Castaneda, who built momentum from previous executive committee members that took the time and effort to revisit bylaws, reestablish bank accounts, and finish other administrative tasks necessary to move forward. They focused on formulating goals and building membership, and hosted a mixer that was represented by various library entities including public, medical, and private library staff. We discussed some baseline goals and are currently working on elections. We look forward to putting in the necessary work to grow the Phoenix Chapter!

Mentoring Committee

by Antonio Apodaca

The Mentoring Committee encourages an interdependent community of leaders through a mindful and mutually beneficial network of protégés and mentors with the shared purpose of engaging Latinxs with libraries.

We are working with University of Southern California summer intern Allen Balangue to create a project proposal for a virtual conference. The idea is to give Reformistas, and particularly protégés and mentors, a chance to meet up using the power of technology. All members have the right to make meaningful connections in the library world regardless of any geographic limitations and without the need to attend cost-prohibitive conferences. Our goal is to present the proposal to the National Board in the fall, once the summer semester is complete. We are actively seeking new protégés and mentors - get involved today and help shape our future by completing the easy online application!
Loterry y Libros: Reforma del Valle Central Partners with the Tulare County Library
“El Gallo, La Dama, La Botella, El Cazo, El Nopal”

by Veronica Casanova

For most of us, these words bring warm memories of playing the traditional Mexican board game Lotería. For those of us who have not played Lotería, here is how it is played. Lotería, or Lottery in English, is very similar to bingo. Every player is given one tabla, a board with randomly assigned images which correspond to the cards in the Lotería deck. When these pictograms are called out, they are marked off with a marker, typically pinto beans. Once the tabla is all marked off, the player wins the game and exclaims, “¡Lotería!”

In Central California’s Tulare County, Lotería is synonymous with the Spanish-speaking community. With this in mind, Tulare County Library staff looked to this board game to attract our Spanish-speaking community. Library staff was conducting a Bingo for Books program, where children received a book when they won a game of bingo and all other players received candy. As we considered implementing a Lotería program, it was only natural for the grand prize to be a Spanish-language book and the candy to be the Mexican De La Rosa sweets.

Like most libraries, the Tulare County Library looks for outside partnerships to bring quality programming to its patrons. These partnerships are especially important in Tulare County, as our libraries are located in small rural towns with low socioeconomic standing. With this program, the Tulare County Library partnered with REFORMA Del Valle Central (RVC). RVC donated over 40 Spanish-language books. These books made a huge difference as they made our Spanish-speaking families feel welcomed, because it was in their language. Spanish-speaking staff and volunteers helped implement the program in three small rural branches: Exeter Branch Library, Farmersville Branch Library, and Woodlake Branch Library.

The results were impressive at all three branches, with larger than normal turnouts for these programs. Exeter Branch Library had a total of seventeen people attend. Farmersville Branch Library had twelve participants. Woodlake Branch Library had thirty-one participants. Our Woodlake Branch Library had standing room only! Many patrons left happy with their books and library staff welcomed the idea of conducting another Lotería y Libros program, but everyone knew that without the partnership with REFORMA Del Valle Central this program could have not been possible. We at the Tulare County Library System are grateful for the local REFORMA chapter!

Veronica Casanova is a Librarian III at the Tulare County Library System in the beautiful San Joaquin Valley.

Some of the books donated to Tulare County Library.
Photo: Woodlake Branch Library on Facebook.
REFORMA has received a $40,000 Laura Bush 21st Century National Forum Grant to offer a series of activities throughout the year that will examine and explore the recruitment and retention of Latinos to the library profession.

The project “Telling Our Stories: Community Building to Recruit and Retain Latinos to the Library Profession” will conduct a series of activities which will include a virtual discussion with six scholars to review and discuss current recruitment efforts; participation of 20 LIS students and 5 first-time conference attendees in the 3rd National Joint Conference of Librarians of Color this September in Albuquerque, New Mexico; a Sunday morning forum at the JCLC Conference to gain insight into the work of REFORMA and leadership; webinars on library services to the Latino and Spanish speaking and finally; a program at the 2019 ALA Annual Conference in Washington, D.C. to report findings from the year-long activities and where we go from here with real-time discussions and feedback. Co-facilitators are Tess Tobin, Louis Muñoz, and Madeline Peña.

Meet the 2018/2019 Scholarship Winners

by Delores Carlito

Gloria Acosta was awarded the REFORMA Scholarship

Gloria has seventeen years of library experience as a cataloger, customer service specialist, and circulation supervisor. She is currently enrolled in library school at Emporia State University. Gloria has an undergraduate degree in Social Work from the Universidad Autónoma de Ciudad Juárez. She is focused, self-motivated, and her recommendation letters describe her as a leader. Gloria hopes to promote not only information literacy, but digital and financial literacy as well. She recognizes that librarians must “extend our work beyond the walls of the library in order to reach the people who require our services the most.” Gloria’s anticipated graduation date is January, 2020.

The REFORMA scholarship is for graduate students in Library and Information Science who are Spanish speakers or interested in serving Hispanics/Latinos or the Spanish-speaking.
Molly Roa was awarded the Rose Treviño scholarship

Molly has just started her MLIS degree at San Jose State University, concentrating on children’s librarianship. She received her undergraduate degree at Loyola University and majored in Political Science and Latin American Studies. Molly has worked with youth since 2002 and is currently a Senior Library Assistant at the San Leandro Public Library, where she works in Spanish Children’s Services. At San Leandro Public Library, she develops and presents weekly bilingual story times for children ages 0-5, and she strives “to develop these programs to not only be fun but also of school-readiness value.” Additionally, she works with the library’s juvenile foreign-language collection. Molly’s anticipated graduation date is Winter, 2019.

The Rose Treviño Memorial Scholarship is for those pursuing a degree in children’s or young adult librarianship.

2018 Dr. Arnulfo D. Trejo Librarian of the Year

Sonia Bautista
Senior Librarian, Adult Services
City of Commerce Public Library

Sonia Bautista is the recipient of the 2018 Dr. Arnulfo D. Trejo Librarian of the Year (LOTY) Award. Sonia has been an active member of REFORMA for over 11 years. Ms. Bautista has been dedicated to serving the Latino community by developing collections of Spanish materials, heading the Commerce Library’s Embajadores program, and offering community programming for Latino adults and families.

“She continues making her mark in libraries and does so with enthusiasm, compassion, passion, and the most sincere dedication to making lives better through the profession of librarianship in Spanish-speaking communities. By the work she does and programs she creates, she contributes greatly to the success of the Commerce Library and beyond. She embodies the phrase, ‘La Biblioteca es para todos.’” —Beatriz Sarmiento, Director of Library Services, City of Commerce Public Library
Luis Herrera has had an illustrious and distinguished career spanning over 40 years. He recently retired after a 13-year tenure as the City Librarian of San Francisco, California. Herrera previously served as the Director of Information Services for Pasadena Public Library and Deputy Director of the San Diego and Long Beach Library systems in California. He has served as President of both the Public Library Association and the California Library Association.

Mr. Herrera has also been very involved with REFORMA for over three decades, serving as President of REFORMA National in 1982 and President of Arizona and Los Angeles Chapters, 1979 and 1988, among other positions of leadership.

“Luis is a valued colleague and wonderful mentor. He has advised many students and new professionals in the library field, particularly ensuring that Latino and Latina librarians and staff are supported in their career paths. He has engaged many levels of staff at the San Francisco Public Library in a leadership development initiative that has changed the nature and focus of that library’s workforce.” — Susan Hildreth

Currently retired, Teresa “Tess” Tobin served as a Personnel Services Librarian, Administrative Librarian, and Reference and Instruction Librarian at the New York City College of Technology of the City University of New York for 17 years. She also worked as Manager of Media and Classroom Services for the University Library at Rutgers University for 7 years.

As President of REFORMA, Ms. Tobin led the organization through one of the most tumultuous years in the organization’s history, which included funds lost through a major phishing crime and the cancellation of the REFORMA National Conference in Puerto Rico due to Hurricane Irma. Ms. Tobin handled these sensitive and urgent issues with excellent leadership and responsiveness, ensuring that the reputation and integrity of the organization remained at its highest amongst members.

“She has demonstrated excellent leadership skills and [her] caring manner became apparent while working with a diverse membership. Her abiding interest in the professional growth of members and students are particularly noteworthy as evidenced by her involvement in local, national, and international organizations and activities.” — Mario M. Gonzalez
**The Life of Selena / La vida de Selena** by Patty Rodriguez and Ariana Stein  
March 2018 | Lil’ Libros  
9780986109997 | Ages 2-5  
Patty Rodriguez and Ariana Stein have done it again! In this beautifully illustrated bilingual board book, young readers will learn about the life of this beloved Tejano artist, whose legacy continues to grow. A great introduction to Selena’s life for little ones.

**Cada animal con su orinal** by Vanesa Perez-Sauquillo  
May 2018 | Beascoa  
9788448849757 | Ages 2-5  
The animals are not happy wearing diapers. In the hot jungle, they itch, they stick, they pinch... But a little explorer has an idea that will keep them happy, fresh, and clean. This whimsical book is perfect for children preparing for potty training.

**¡Lo compro!** by Canizales  
February 2018 | Ediciones Jaguar  
9788417272081 | Ages 3-8  
Tadeo is unhappy. He can’t figure out what he’s missing when he sees the other children having fun playing with their toys. He finally realizes that what he’s missing are friends, and not toys. This book is perfect for initiating conversations with children about the importance of friendship over material things.

**Alma y cómo obtuvo su nombre** by Juana Martinez-Neal  
April 2018 | Candlewick Press  
9780763693589 | Ages 3-8  
Alma Sofia Esperanza José Pura Candela wants to know why her name is so long. Her father tells her the story behind each of her names. A nice story for parents to talk to their children about the special people they are named after.

**El abecedario** by Maria Puchol  
2018 | Abdo Kids  
9781532103001 (Aa) | Ages 3-6  
This set of 29 books will help young readers recognize the shapes and sounds of the traditional Spanish alphabet. Each volume highlights one letter and engages the reader with its alliterative text. Recommended for children learning to read Spanish.
Como el perro y el gato by Edu Flores
February 2018 | Apila Ediciones
9788417028060 | Ages 3-8
What do a dog and cat have in common? Not very much, but these unlikely friends discover that friendship goes beyond appearances. A sweet story to begin conversations about what it means to be friends.

Un cuento propio: historias para leer, heroínas por descubrir by Pandora Mirabilia y Camila Monasterio
March 2018 | TakaTuka
9788417383084 | Ages 6-8
In these short narratives, little ones journey alongside brave women activists as they struggle to bring about a better world. Recommended for introducing children to the lives of women activists from around the world.

La frontera: el viaje con papá / My Journey with Papa by Deborah Mills and Alfredo Alva
May 2018 | Barefoot Books
9781782853886 | Ages 8-12
This bilingual book, based on a true story, provides a thoughtful glimpse into the challenges faced by immigrants and the forces behind immigration. The engaging and expressive illustrations beautifully enhance each moment of the story. A wonderful book to initiate discussion about immigration with children.

Harvesting Friends / Cosechando amigos by Gwendolyn Zepeda
April 2018 | Piñata Books
9781558858589 | Ages 3-8
When Lupe finds a boy in her garden and her tomatoes missing, she agrees to let the boy work in the garden in exchange for tomatoes. Lupe and Antonio soon become friends and invite the neighborhood to plant next year’s crops and celebrate the harvest. A nice story to begin discussions about understanding, acceptance, and community.

Maya and Annie on Saturdays and Sundays / Los sábados y domingos de Maya y Annie by Kathleen Conterras
April 2018 | Piñata Books
9781558858596 | Ages 3-8
Maya and Annie are friends and spend every weekend together, enjoying pozole and dumplings at each other’s houses. When Maya’s mother and Annie’s father decide to get married, they will soon become one family. Recommended for initiating conversations about blended families and multiculturalism.
¡Un año fuera de casa! (Serie New York Academy I) by Ana Punset
May 2018 | Montena
9788490439371 | Young Adult
Thanks to her poetry blog, Sofia has been given a scholarship to do a writing course in a prestigious New York academy. Although she is excited about the new experience, Sofia also fears change. It is the first time that she is away from her family and friends.

El gran sueño by Jordi Sierra i Fabra
May 2018 | Santillana
9788491221920 | Young Adult
In the spring of 1881, the ship “Odisea” departs from Barcelona to New York. Third-class passengers, who travel in deplorable conditions, aspire to a new life, with the prospect of finding a better future. But dreams seem more distant without money and work.

'68: el otoño mexicano de la masacre de Tlatelolco by Paco Ignacio Taibo II
August 2018 | Siete Cuentos
9781609808518 | Adult
A provocative account of the Tlatelolco Square Massacre, in which more than two hundred students were shot dead in a bloody showdown with government troops when among thousands protesting election fraud and campaigning for university reform in Mexico City on the night of October 2, 1968.

Adiós eterno: los últimos días del Divo by Francisco J. Leon Herrera
July 2018 | Aguilar
9786073161862 | Adult
Juan Gabriel was one of the greatest idols of Mexican popular music who passed away on August 28, 2016. This biography reveals the private man behind the stage.

La batalla por el paraíso: Puerto Rico y el capitalismo del desastre by Naomi Klein
June 2018 | Haymarket Books
9781608463589 | Adult
A remarkable investigation uncovering the inequality of politics and colonialism faced by Puerto Rico in the rubble of Hurricane Maria over the remaking of the island.
**Cuídate de mí** by Maria Frisa  
May 2018 | Plaza & Janés  
9788401020810 | Adult  
Berta and Lara are inspectors working in a police unit specialized in violence against women in Zaragoza. They must investigate the murder of a young man who was accused of the rape of a teenager, but was eventually set free due to lack of evidence.

**Desnudo** by Jomari Goyso  
May 2018 | HarperCollins Español  
9781418597931 | Adult  
Autobiography of well-known stylist and TV presenter, Jomari Goyso. The author talks about his origins from a simple farm in La Rioja, Spain, to his rise as one of the most influential voices of fashion in Hispanic television. Jomari also explores his fears and reveals how he learned to overcome them.

**Moronga** by Horacio Castellanos Moya  
May 2018 | Literatura Random House  
9788439734055 | Adult  
José Zeledón, a former Salvadoran guerrilla, lives tormented by his violent past. He crosses paths with Salvadoran journalist Erasmo Aragón, who is a professor at Merlow College and is working on finding the truth about the revolutionary poet Roque Dalton’s death.

**El niño que me perdonó la vida** by Armando Caicedo  
February 2018 | Palabra Libre  
9789585987609 | Adult  
Based on real events, this is a heartbreaking story set in the jungle of Colombia. A guerrilla boy and an army lieutenant tell their dramatic experiences when they meet on the same battlefield.

**Patricia sigue aquí** by María Mínguez Arias  
2018 | Egales  
9788417319144 | Adult  
Finalist of the 2018 International Latino Book Awards, Best LGBTQ Themed Book. Patricia dies in an accident just when she and her partner Lesly were going to have a child. Lesly must face the endless digital trail that Patricia leaves behind in the form of emails, articles, and blog entries. This story examines universal themes such as love, mourning, and overcoming loss and grief.
Book Recommendations by Linda Goodman—from FIL Guadalajara

By Madeline Peña

The Guadalajara International Book Fair (FIL) is considered the most important event in the Spanish-language book industry, featuring more than 2,187 publishing houses from 47 countries. Many REFORMA members take advantage of the ALA-FIL FREE PASS Program and travel to Mexico each November to acquire new, authentic, and outstanding Spanish-language materials for their libraries.

The program provides hotel accommodations for 3 nights including continental breakfast, FIL registration, and $100 toward the cost of airfare. FREE PASSEs will be awarded to 150 librarians (must be ALA members) to attend FIL from November 24 - 28, 2018. This year’s guest of honor is Portugal. The deadline for application is September 8, 2018. Apply online or contact Cintia Rodríguez at cintia.rodriguez@fil.com.mx for more information.

Last FIL, we met with Linda Goodman, owner of the Bilingual Publications Company—a boutique distributor of books in Spanish serving mostly urban libraries. She has been attending FIL since the very first edition in 1987. She shared with REFORMA some of the children’s books that made the greatest impression on her at the fair—mostly books that celebrate our differences, and offer a sense of imagination and creativity.

Pingüino Azul by Petr Horáček
2018 | Editorial Juventud
9788426142351
Imagine a little penguin born with blue feathers. He has a different color but that doesn’t mean he’s not a penguin.

El sol, la luna y el agua by Laura Herrera
2018 | Ediciones Ekare
9788494303883
A story from Nigeria beautifully told through powerful illustrations.
**Ana, la menonita migrante** by Maxine Trottier
2017 | Artes de México
9786074612424
This book is about an unusual family. They are Mennonites. As they walk through the streets as a family the townsfolk stare at them. Women wear handkerchiefs on their heads, the men wear big hats, they dress differently. And again, we have to learn to accept each other.

**Papá oso** by Rafael Yockteng
2017 | Ediciones Ekaré
9788494498831
This is a sweet board book about a little boy and his dad. Simple and yet great to spark the imagination of a child.

**Vitamina, ¿dónde estás?** by Carla Baredes e Ileana Lotersztain
2012 | Ediciones lamiqué
9789871217366
I love this book. It’s the story of what each vitamin is and where you can find it. The handcrafted illustrations are made out of actual foods that have vitamin A, B, C, or D. You learn the information and then you see what some of those foods are. So creative!

**Una familia salvaje** by Laurent Moreau
2017 | Libros del Zorro Rojo
9788494650666
This book is so original. The author shows us you can imagine members of your family as a certain animal. His mother is delicate and beautiful and timid and doesn’t want to call too much attention to herself, so he thinks of her as a giraffe. It’s a very unique concept. The lettering is fabulous.

**Pete el gato** by Eric Litwin
2016 | Lata de Sal
9788494469893
Great big lettering, very funny story. Plus there’s a moral to the story—don’t sweat the small stuff. Just focus on what you’re doing. Things go wrong, no problem. Just keep moving. It’ll be better. It’s just such an inspiring book for little children.
¡Abraza la Tierra! Libro inclusivo en braille y tinta by Laura Caballero
2015 | Constantine Editores
9786077509455
This is a real discovery—a picture book in Braille. Many libraries in the United States have collections of books in Braille and the New York public library has an entire branch dedicated to books in Braille and anything for the blind. There are many titles in the series and the same company has other books on other disabilities.

Cuando floreció la risa by Gioconda Belli
2017 | Libros del Zorro Rojo
9788494570919
Gioconda Belli is known as a great novelist from Nicaragua. She’s been in the business of writing and publishing for many years. She wrote this children’s book telling us her imaginary story of how the smile was born. When Adam and Eve found so many differences between themselves it made them laugh—and they even got the tree to be happy and smile. It’s a long story, but it has exquisite, brilliant illustrations.

Greeting from Loida Garcia-Febo

Saludos, REFORMA Family! Best wishes for a great ALA Annual Conference in New Orleans. Let’s continue working together to impact public policy and benefit our profession and the communities we serve. Together, we can make things happen. Together, we can bring change. Libraries = Strong Communities!

Loida Garcia-Febo
2018-2019 ALA President
Ode to Mia Hamm

by Abel Folgar

How will I impart upon my daughter a love for the beautiful game? How will I bring her to the altar of worship without the overbearing of a parent who pushes their child away? Specially into something awful like volleyball or softball? How will I get her excited about the heroics of Birgit, Marta or Deyna? How will I get her excited for a round of keepie uppie with the old man after school?

How will I convince her that this beautiful and sacred thing is ours to love and enjoy? I'll tell her about you, that's how.

I'll tell her about the impossibly accurate strikes you burned 158 international nets with; how the ball was epoxied unto your boots as you danced your way through the pitch—a hellfire sashay that left confusion and disarray in its wake; that above all, you bled in honor for team and country—that you were the most selfless embodiment of the Stars and Stripes. I'll tell her that above all odds, when your very own nation dismissed your gender's contribution to the beautiful game, you worked harder than ever to be the very best you could be. That every day was a fight for equality and acceptance—whether you knew it was a war waged or not—it didn’t matter. That you were the *dominus absoluta novem* for three decades of USWNT play—red, white and blue.

That you were a two-time Hermann recipient during an all-champion college career—Tar Heel white and Carolina blue. That you built a petrol fire over time, adding fuel gradually until the match needed to be lit; that you worked too hard and too long to let anything stand between you and your goals; that you never let yourself or your teammates down; that you persevered at the point of exhaustion, bent over, drenched in sweat, when nobody else was looking—and gave it some more.

I'll tell her how the more the world has changed, the more it has stayed the same and whatever challenges she's to face, long after I’m gone, she’ll be able to bend into her will because you and many like you, paved a way for her to be whatever her heart desires. I will tell her that more than the beautiful game; this most lovely and sacred thing—this whole damn world is hers to enjoy.
Oda a Iniesta

by Yago Cura

Sobriquets amass resonance—a sort of frequency of victories, wins, and captures.

“Takes,” if you will, fed by turgid scandals, ego-imploding derrotas, and hard-scrapple glitches on the Donkey Tube.

However, the Spanish press take Don Andrés to be their laufly-wedded guest, but Iniesta is no proxy fogey viejo.

If anything, The Illusionist is a humble doodad with enormous scimitars for Dimensions.

Some call him Anti-Galactic based on that Milky-Way of a season with Barça, burying Chelsea

in the Champions League with a petard 25 yards out; también, Iniesta spanked Manchester

made Rooney insta-devotee, launching plaudits at him from across the glassine moat of his own celebrity.

Iniesta’s that scrappy brother tenacious palooka runt makes things pop-off midfield; he opens up the berth of Play.

He can not get sucked out to sea by phalanx of “D” flotsamed into the penalty zone.

He got those colostrum dreadlocks in the back of his throat and big-ups the good that die young.

He clamored the winning goal in double over time after stopping it with his chest and activating la Howitzer.

And, on the last night of his last game for Barcelona Iniesta shook the lode from his botines, peeled off socks and sat with, consoled, every future blade of Camp Nou grass.
Events at a Glance

For more details, including all meeting and event descriptions and locations, visit the ALA Annual Scheduler.

Friday, June 22
2-4 pm  REFORMA Executive Committee Meeting I

Saturday, June 23
8-10 am  REFORMA All Committees Meeting
1-2 pm  REFORMA President's Program: Telling Our Stories: Community Building & Leadership
2-4 pm  REFORMA Board of Directors Meeting

Sunday, June 24
1-3 pm  2018 Pura Belpré Award Celebración
5-7 pm  REFORMA Awards Ceremony
7-8 pm  REFORMA Happy Hour and New Members Meet & Greet

Monday, June 25
3-5 pm  REFORMA General Membership Meeting
5-7 pm  REFORMA Executive Committee Meeting II

The 2018 American Library Association Annual Conference will take place in New Orleans, Louisiana, from Thursday, June 21 to Tuesday, June 26. REFORMA will have several meetings and special programs at Annual.

The REFORMA President’s Program will feature leaders from all five of ALA’s ethnic caucuses. The speakers will be sharing their experiences in becoming library professionals, serving in their respective ethnic caucuses, and working with different communities in their libraries. For those curious about librarianship or interested in the missions of the American Indian Library Association (AILA), Asian Pacific American Librarians Association (APALA), Black Caucus of the American Library Association (BCALA), Chinese American Librarians Association (CALA), and REFORMA, this is not to be missed! Catch the program on Saturday, June 23, from 1-2 pm at the Morial Convention Center, Room 353-355.

Honor the 2018 Pura Belpré Award winners during the Celebración on Sunday, June 24, from 1-3 pm at the Hilton Riverside, Grand Salon 3; take a break or crawl the Exhibits Hall at the Morial Convention Center; and then honor the recipients of this year’s LOTY and Lifetime Achievement Awards at the Awards Ceremony from 5-7 pm at the Hilton Riverside. Meet with fellow REFORMA members for some diversión at the mixer from 7-8 pm. The location of the meet-and-greet will be announced via the @reformanational Twitter account.

Learn about REFORMA’s latest activities and initiatives at the REFORMA General Membership Meeting on Monday, June 25, from 3-5 pm at the Sheraton New Orleans, Bayside B.
REFORMA Executive Committee 2017-2018

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Not a member? Membership lapsed?

Join REFORMA or renew your membership at reforma.org/join

See you in Albuquerque!

The 3rd National Joint Conference of Librarians of Color
September 26-30, 2018 | Albuquerque, NM